

## Fourth Parade Picture Perfect

By KEITH L. MARTIN

From the blaring sirens of the red fire trucks to the last guitar licks of The Primos, Duxbury's 113th Fourth of July Parade was a collection of sights and sounds with something for everyone.

Monday was largely a family affair around town, both on the parade route and along Washington Street as relatives gathered for parade-perfect weather.

The DeLuca family has made the parade a big family get-together since 1999, with father Ed and his children inviting all of their friends to take a front row seat on their front lawn for the start of the festivities at Hall's Corner.

"I come back from



**Grand Marshal  
Helen Phillbrick**

Vermont just for this," said Matt DeLuca, 23. "We're right at the beginning of the parade, so we get all the excitement."

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Passing the DeLuca family at the start of the parade was the Mutkoski family, who collaborated on their first float after watching the parade for the last few years.

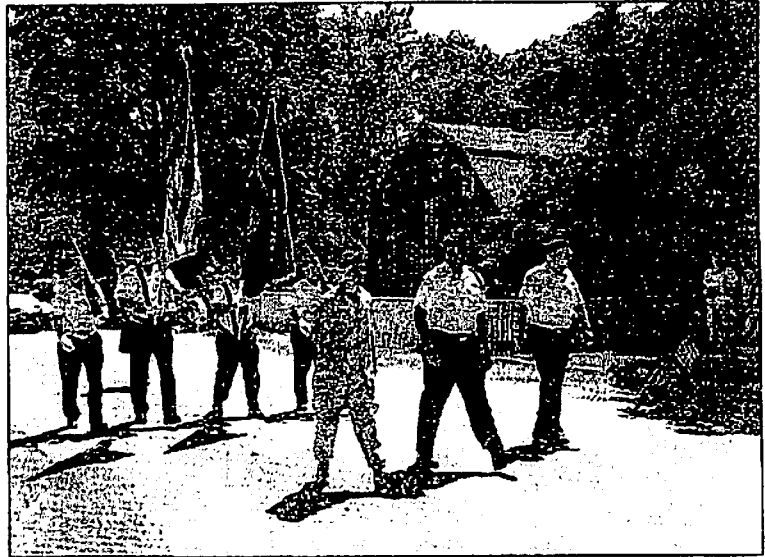
Carr Road's Chris Mutkoski said he and brother John of Fox Run, both avid boaters, could think of no better float for this year's theme of "American Movie Classics" than "Jaws."

"Duxbury is a water community so we thought 'Jaws' was perfect," said Chris Mutkoski. "Every year, we've watched the parade at Hall's Corner, but this year we wanted to do a float with our entire family on it."

So as Chris towed his boat with dancing relatives entertaining the crowd, John rode off the back "water skiing" on Washington Street as a victim of the vicious shark. The family's efforts won them second place in the mini-float division.

Placing third in the maxi-float division was the Duxbury Free Library's "Bookmarks Club," which went with another Steven Spielberg classic, "Indiana Jones."

"It was something both the boys and the girls in the group liked," said Andrew Hovey, who donned the brown fedora and whip as Indy for the parade. "We did everything from picking roles to building the set, so I hope the judges like it."



**Army National Guard Specialist Michael Hearson of Summer Street joined the honor guard from American Legion Post 223 on the parade route.**

While celebrating on-screen entertainment, the town's Fourth of July committee also chose to honor off-screen heroics by asking Colonel Ronald Johnson to lead the parade, just a few months after his return from Iraq as commander of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

The committee also sought returning servicemen to join the American Legion Post 223 color guard as they marched in the parade.

Army National Guard Specialist Michael Hearson of Summer Street returned to town last April after a year in Iraq and said he wanted to march in this year's parade to honor his colleagues still away from home.

"I want to show my respect and support for my fellow veterans still overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan," he said. "I want to remind people that we are still at war and to still support our troops and keep their patriotism strong."

Thinking about our nation on Monday were Davis and Connie Gallison of Washington Street, who after 27 years in town and 27 parades said that Duxbury's treatment of Independence Day is very special.

"It's quintessential New England with all the old houses and the parade," said Connie Gallison.

"It's quintessential America," said husband Davis.

Both enjoyed having family and friends close for the holiday and had nothing but praise for the passing parade, which featured over 20 bands, including three new additions to the lineup: the Cosmo Legion Band of Brockton, the Windjammers of Boston and the Pembroke Imperials.

As the parade passed by,

Washington Street looked more like Blockbuster Video as movie after movie entertained the crowd. The Boy Scouts' "Jungle Book," Duxbury Rural and Historical Society's "Sound of Music," and Camp Wing's King Kong were just some of the 25 floats entered in this year's parade.

When it was all over, organizers said they couldn't have asked for a better parade.

"I think the greatest gift we had was the weather," said committee co-chairwoman Margaret Kearney. "We have a great committee that really worked hard to put this all together and they did an excellent job."

At the end of the parade, Kearney had a chance to catch up with Grand Marshal Helen Phillbrick, who also had nothing but praise for the event.

"She told me that she had a wonderful time and finally got the answer to questions she's wondered about for years, such as how we pace the parade and how long it takes from start to finish," said Kearney of the 90-year-old resident. "She saw a lot of family and friends along the route and she was just fantastic."

At the awards ceremony following the parade, firefighter Chuck Nudd and his family and friends took home the top award of \$500 in the maxi-float division for their entry, Sleeping Beauty, which featured Nudd's metallic town mascot, Draco.

"We've brought Draco to lots of events in town and we thought, why not put him in the parade as well?" said Nudd. "This award goes to all the friends and family who helped us with the float and I really can't thank them enough. This is great."

The afternoon's other big award, the Margaret Parcher Trophy, was given to Colonel Johnson on behalf of the Fourth of July committee "in appreciation of his services to the town and our country," said member Dave Robinson.

#### FOURTH OF JULY PARADE WINNERS

**Margaret Parcher Trophy** - Col. Robert Johnson

**Floats (maxi)** - 5th: Jungle Book (Boy Scouts); 4th: Sound of Music (Duxbury Rural & Historical Society); 3rd: Indiana Jones (Duxbury Free Library); 2nd: Sons of Blues / Blues Brothers (Student Union Association); 1st: Sleeping Beauty (Chuck Nudd, family and friends)

**Floats (mini)** - 4th: Beach Blanket Bingo (Duxbury Beach Park); 3rd: Duxbury and Kingston Kiwanis Club; 2nd: Jaws (Mukoski family); 1st: King Kong (Camp Wing)

**Marching Bands** - 3rd: Pembroke Imperials; 2nd: Cosmo Legion Band; 1st: Windjammers

**Color Guard** - 2nd: Plymouth County Sheriff's Department; 1st: Duxbury Police Department

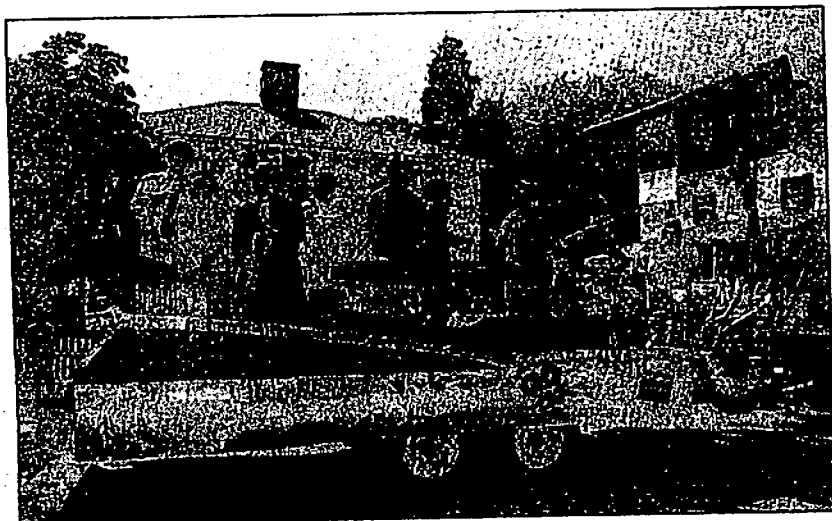
**Rock Bands** - 2nd: Duxbury High School; 1st: The Primos

**Bands** - 3rd: Duxbury Dixieland Band; 2nd: York Lions Steel Band; 1st: Cheech and the Reggae Bubblers



## Duxbury's 113th Fourth of July Parade

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The Sons of Blues rocked the Student Union Association's float, a tribute to the 25th anniversary of the movie *The Blues Brothers*.



The DeLuca family - (left to right) Mark ("Marv"), Matt, Ed, Brooke and Paige - got a front row seat for the parade on their Washington Street front lawn.



Three-year-old Josh Connor shows off his patriotism and his custom-made bag for collecting candy thrown during the parade.



**The Bergeron brothers – Dick, Bob, Ray and Don – rode together in this year's parade. All four are Navy veterans of World War II.**



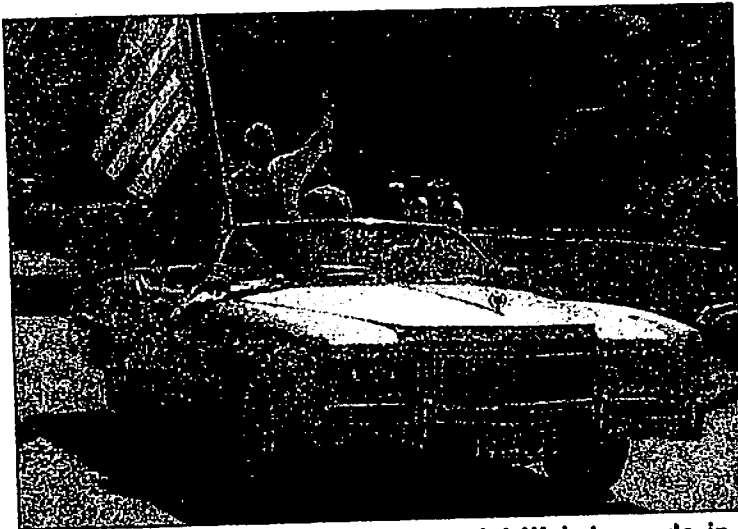
**The South Shore Bay Band played Friday night at DHS and again during Monday's parade.**



**Police Chief Mark DeLuca leads the department's color guard, which won top honors at Monday's parade.**



**Parade favorites Uncle Sam (Woody Woodruff) and Lady Liberty (Ruth Woodruff).**



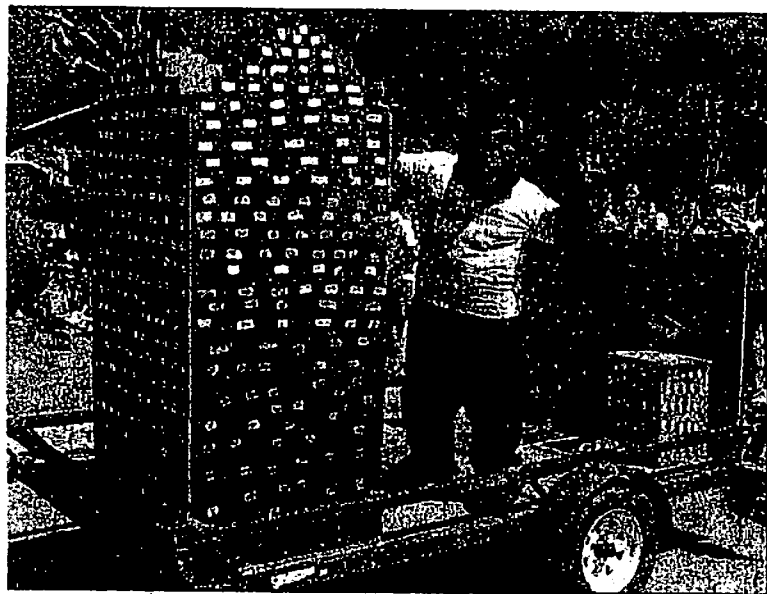
While one state representative, Daniel Webster, rode in style at the beginning of the parade, his colleague, State Representative O'Brien, hit the streets to do his waving to the crowd.



Duxbury Free Library's "Bookmarks Club" took home second place in the maxi-floats division with their *Indiana Jones* recreation.



The *Sleeping Beauty* float, by firefighter Chuck Nudd and friends and family, took first place in the maxi-float division.



Camp Wing's *King Kong* float was a monster hit with judges, taking top honors in the mini-float division.



Colonel Ronald Johnson, home from leading the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit in Iraq, led the parade surrounded by children. Col. Johnson also received the Margery Parcher Trophy for his service to the town and his country, as chosen by the town's Fourth of July Committee.



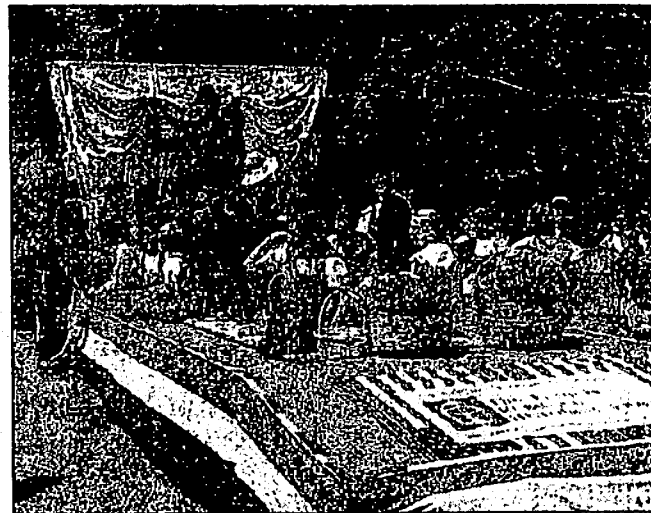
Selectmen Betsy Sullivan, John Tuffy and Andre Martecchini strolled down Washington Street.



The Duxbury Dixieland Band got parade goers swingin'.



"Duxbury Idol" Molly Jewell was joined by finalists Jackson Wetherbee and Ashley Crosscup for a ride down the parade route.



Washington Street was alive with the *Sound of Music*, thanks to the Duxbury Rural & Historical Society's float.

Photos by KEITH L. MARTIN



On a hot July 4th, it was a perfect day for a float from Scoops Ice Cream Shop.





The Mutkoski family float, based on *Jaws*, took home second place among all mini-floats.



Duxbury Beach Park's "Beach Blanket Bingo" float won fourth place in the mini-float division.